

QA-574

Mount Hope

Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County

Constructed ca. 1945

Privately owned

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Mount Hope is a ca. 1945 house that contains remnants of a mid-19th century tenant house. It occupies 218 acres that lie on both sides of Prospect Bay Road immediately south of Perrys Corner in Queen Anne's County. The property includes the house, three non-contributing outbuildings, and a ca. 1945 gate. The house is a 2-story, 4-bay, single pile building with a rear ell. Remnants of the 19th century house include wide plank pine floors, a double-run stair, a thick wall between the center passage and north parlor, and 8-panel mortised doors.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mount Hope is a ca. 1945 house that contains remnants of a mid-19th century tenant house. The tenant house, owned by Thomas J. C. Cowley, appears on Strong's 1866 Map of Queen Annes County at the location of the current house. The property as it currently appears was created by Winter Edwin Crouch after he acquired it in 1945. The property was documented both for its remnants of the mid-19th century house and as an example of a 20th century remodeling into a miniature country estate.

Inventory No. QA-574

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Mount Hope

other	N/A
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2. Location

street and number 301 Mount Hope Farm Lane not for publication

city, town	Grasonville	X	vicinity
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county Queen Anne's

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name	Edward J. Bauer
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street and number 301 Mount Hope Farm Lane

telephone (410) 827-5497

city, town	Grasonville
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state	MD
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zip code 21638

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Queen Anne's County Circuit Court	liber	SM 1342	folio	283
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city, town	Centreville	tax map	65	tax parcel	10	tax ID number	05-004063
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5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory <u>0</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. QA-574

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Mount Hope is a ca. 1945 house that contains remnants of a mid-19th century tenant house. It occupies 218 acres that lie on both sides of Prospect Bay Road immediately south of Perrys Corner in Queen Anne's County. The property includes the house, three non-contributing outbuildings, and a ca. 1945 gate. The house is a 2-story, 4-bay, single pile building with a rear ell. Remnants of the 19th century house include wide plank pine floors, a double-run stair, a thick wall between the center passage and north parlor, and 8-panel mortised doors.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Mount Hope is a ca. 1945 house that contains remnants of a mid-19th century tenant house. It occupies 218 acres that lie on both sides of Prospect Bay Road immediately south of Perrys Corner. On the west side of the road are woodlands, on the east side are the buildings and agricultural fields. A hedge forms the west boundary of the agricultural fields along Prospect Bay Road. A marshy area and Greenwood Creek form the eastern boundary of the property. Mount Hope includes the main house, three non-contributing outbuildings, and a ca. 1945 gate. There is also a small dock on Greenwood Creek that is used by neighbors in Perrys Corner.

The house at Mount Hope is approached via Mount Hope Lane, a straight gravel lane that leads east from Prospect Bay Road. Ca. 1946 brick gateposts with a wrought iron gate mark the entrance to the lane. An allee of alternating holly and oak trees lines the lane. Boxwood lined paths and specimen trees surround the house.

The main house at Mount Hope is a 2-story, 4-bay, single-pile building with a rear ell. The foundation and walls are covered in running bond brick with scored mortar joints. The asphalt shingle gambrel roof has flared eaves, a boxed cornice and shed dormers. There are exterior brick chimneys in the north, south, and east gable ends. The 1/1 vinyl windows have brick jack arches on the first floor. Main entry is in the second bay from the south on the west (front) elevation. The entry consists of a half-glass door with fluted pilasters and a flat entablature. The entry has a brick stoop and a simple pedimented portico. The portico is faced with wood weatherboard and has square wood posts. There are additional entries on the east elevation of the main block and the south elevation of the ell. A porch fills the southeast corner between the main block and the ell. The porch has a brick foundation and floor, square wood posts, and a shed roof.

The interior of the house has a center passage plan with a kitchen in the ell. Remnants of the mid-19th century tenant house include wide plank pine floors in the south passage and parlor, a 7.5-inch thick wall between the passage and north parlor, and an 8-panel mortised door in the north parlor. Most other finishes, including the floors in the north parlor and the knotty pine paneling in both parlors, date to ca. 1945. There is another 8-panel mortised door on the second floor.

Mount Hope includes three non-contributing outbuildings. Immediately southeast of the house is a large corrugated metal shed that functions as a workshop. Another corrugated shed lies northeast of the house. At the northeast corner of Prospect Bay Road and Mount Hope Lane is a late-20th century, wood-frame machine shed that functions as a produce stand for the current owner.

8. Significance

Inventory No. QA-574

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates ca. 1945

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates ca. 1945

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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RESOURCE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE

A sign attached to the gate to Mount Hope states that the property dates to 1769. According to the current owner, the previous owner, Winter Edwin Crouch, did extensive research on the property and determined the 1769 date. Research conducted for this survey has not substantiated that claim, and unfortunately, Winter Edwin Crouch has died, and his son could not be located.

Mount Hope appears to have been the name of an early land grant that was much larger than the current property. The first record with this name is from 1724, when William Clayton of Talbot County and James Earle of Queen Anne's County conveyed to Henry Wilcocks 100 acres, part of "Mt. Hope".¹ Other references to parts of Mount Hope appear in 1730, 1742, and 1744 in association with the Wilcocks and Elliott families.²

Deeds for the current tract known as Mount Hope go back to Daniel Cox Hopper. The Hoppers were a prominent Queen Anne's County family. Daniel Cox Hopper represented Queen Anne's County in the Maryland General Assembly House of Delegates in 1808-1809 and 1823-1824. His brother Philemon Blake Hopper became a prominent Queen Anne's County judge. Daniel Cox Hopper sold Mount Hope to John W. Perry. The Perry family was associated with Perrys Corner immediately north of Mount Hope.

In 1864, Thomas J. C. Cowley acquired Mount Hope for \$8400 from the estate of John W. Perry. At the time, Mount Hope was described as 223 acres minus an 8-acre tract at the northwest corner (in Perrys Corner).³ Cowley (ca. 1812-1872) was a Queen Anne's County native and farmer. He acquired Mount Hope as a tenant farm, his home farm being to the southwest at the current location of Prospect Bay Golf Course. Cowley died intestate in 1872. In 1875, the Chancery Court divided his four farms among his second wife (Sarah L. V. Cowley, age 23), daughter (Sarah E. Cowley, age 3), and a granddaughter from his first marriage (Elizabeth D. Nelson, age 10).⁴ His daughter, 3-year-old Sarah E. Cowley received Mount Hope, which was valued at \$5452.34 and described as follows:

¹ Leonard, R. Bernice. *Queen Anne's County Maryland Land Records, Book 1 (1701-1725)*, 93.

² Leonard, R. Bernice. *Queen Anne's County Maryland Land Records, Book 2 (1725-1741)*, 34, 35, 63.

Leonard, R. Bernice. *Queen Anne's County Maryland Land Records, Book 3 (1738-1747)*, 44, 65.

³ Land Records of Queen Anne's County, Liber SED 1, folio 444. This deed also states that Perry acquired the land from Daniel C. Hopper.

⁴ Chancery Docket No. 477, Queen Anne's County Circuit Court.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-574

Mount Hope
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

... situated on Greenwoods Creek ... about 200 acres [in fact it was 218 acres]. ... soil is mostly light loam ... there is some very excellent land on this farm and some very indifferent. The outbuildings are in bad condition, the dwelling is tolerably good.⁵

The 218-acre tract dates to the Chancery Court ruling. Sarah E. Cowley retained Mount Hope and later lived there with her husband, George T. Harrison. An 1896 tax assessment described the property as follows:

218 acres of land situate on the public road leading from Perrys Corner to Prospect Bay. Farm adjoins lands of John D. Kirby and others - 60 acres wood land, 158 acres land. Dwelling, meat house, Stable and carriage house, Poultry house, Granary and corn crib. Taxable value - \$5630.⁶

In 1903, Dr. Charles Cockey acquired Mount Hope from Sarah E. Harrison (nee Cowley), George T. Harrison, and Sarah L. V. Wallace for \$4600. Charles Cockey left Mount Hope to his son Benjamin Cockey in 1904, and Benjamin Cockey left it to his wife, Harriet M. Cockey and children in 1936.

In 1945, Winter Edwin Crouch acquired Mount Hope from Harriet M. Cockey and her children. The property as it currently appears was created by Crouch. Crouch turned the property into a miniature estate. He constructed the brick and iron entry gate, planted the allee and boxwoods, and remodeled the house into its current appearance. Crouch died in 1977, and the current owner, Edward J. Bauer, acquired Mount Hope in 1982. The 218-acre tract remains intact minus about an acre taken for road widenings.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Surles, Trish. *1896 Tax Assessment of Queen Anne's County, Maryland* (District Five), 31.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-574

Land Records of Queen Anne's County. www.mdlandrec.net

Leonard, R. Bernice. *Queen Anne's County Maryland Land Records*. Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1994.

Queen Anne's County Circuit Court. Chancery Docket No. 477.

Strong, J. G. *Map of Queen Anne's County, Maryland*. Baltimore, J. G. Strong, 1866.

Surles, Trish. *1896 Tax Assessment of Queen Anne's County, Maryland*. Self published. 2003.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 217 acres
Acreage of historical setting 217 acres
Quadrangle name Queenstown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary for Mount Hope is identical to the boundary for Queen Anne's County Tax Map 65, Parcel 10. The boundary encompasses 217 acres includes all the land associated with Mount Hope since the settlement of Thomas J. C. Cowley's estate in 1875, minus about one acre taken for road widenings.

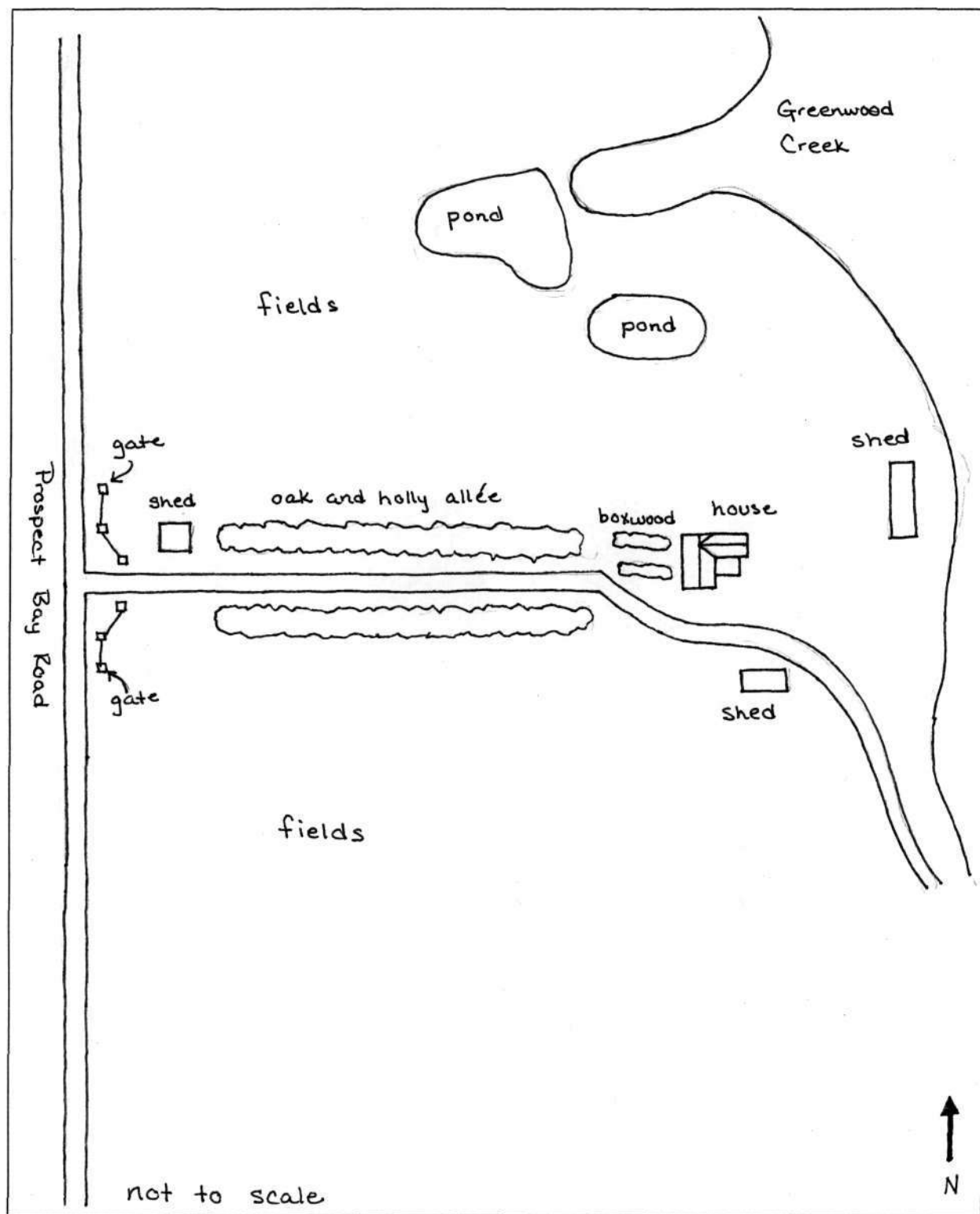
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Julie Darsie		
organization	Betty Bird & Associates LLC	date	December 2005
street & number	2607 24 th Street NW, Suite 3	telephone	(202) 588-9033
city or town	Washington, District of Columbia	state	N/A

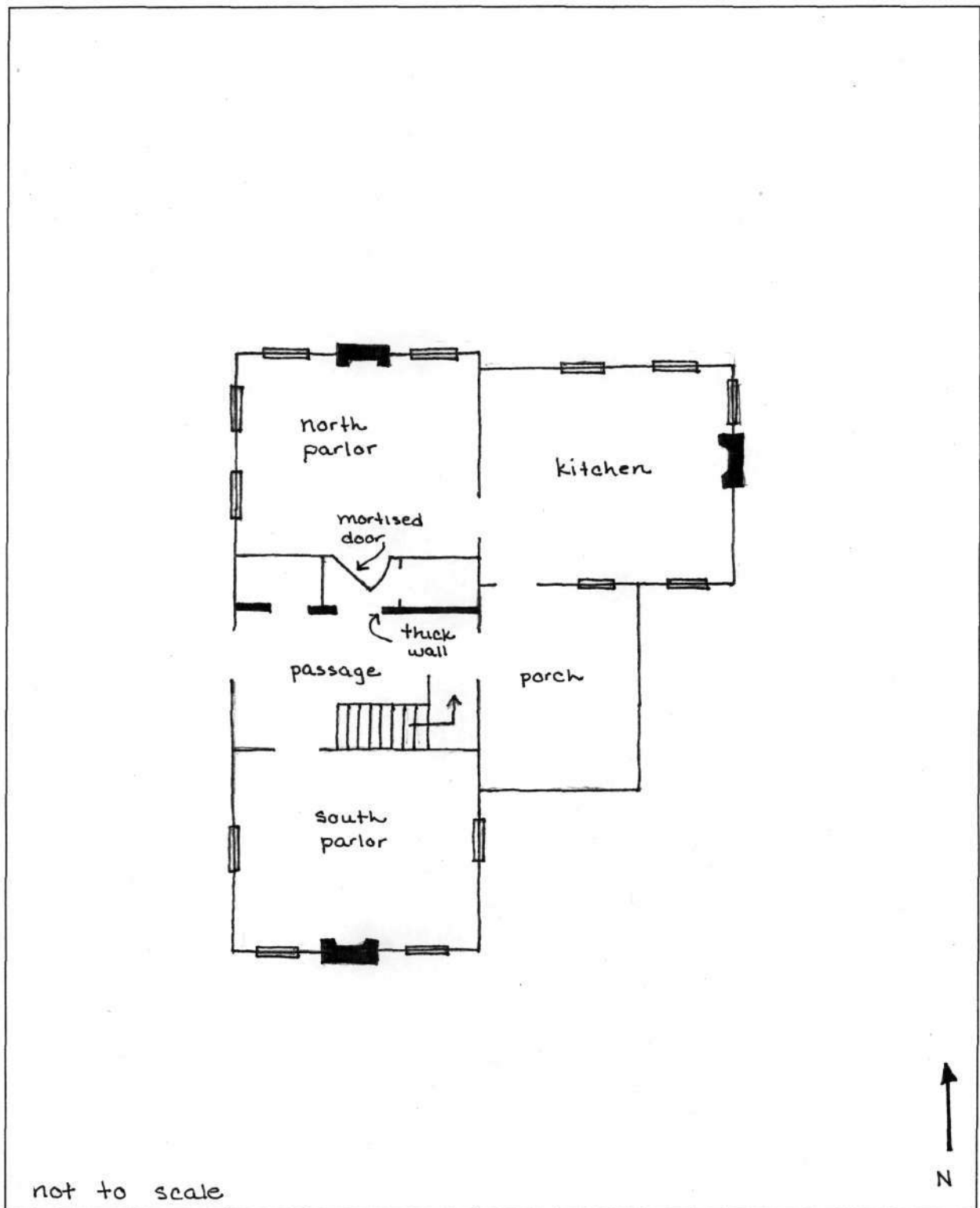
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

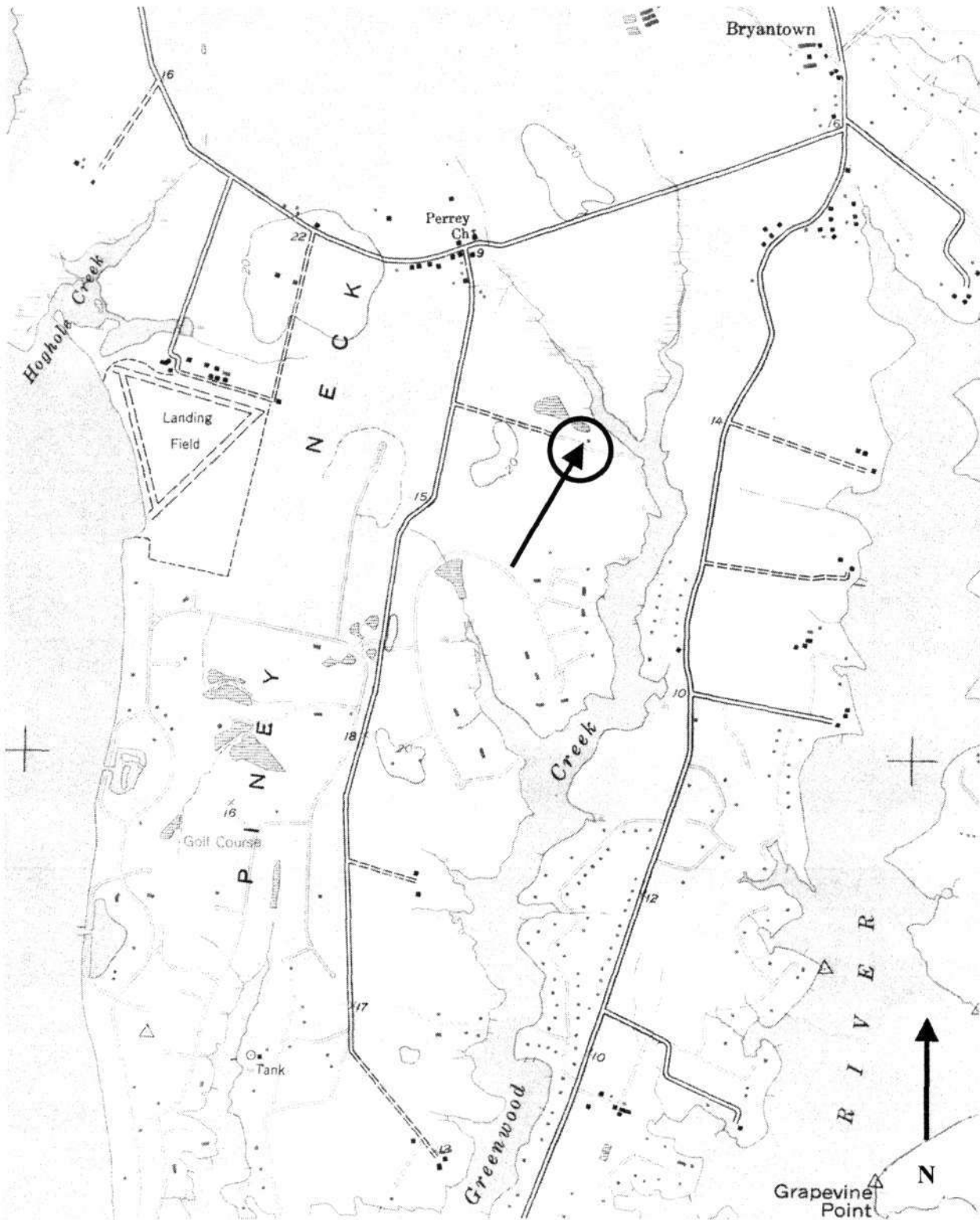
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



Site Plan
QA-574
Mount Hope
Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County



Floor Plan
QA-574
Mount Hope
Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County



QA-574
Mount Hope
Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County
Queenstown, Maryland Quadrangle (1:24,000)



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Belly Bud & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

West elevation

1 of 8

0117 11 +02 NHHH-6410



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Annet's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

South elevation

2 of 8

0169 - 111111 20+ 11 680< >



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

Southeast corner

30-8

0119 - 111111 20+ 11 160< >



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD 3440

East elevation

4 of 8

> 060< 11 20+ 111111 0149



QA- 574

Mount Hope

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

North elevation

5 of 8

0149 — MINIM 20+ 11 260X



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Annes County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

Interior view to SE from center passage showing
stair and south parlor.

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0109 — 11/11/11 20:11:11 >



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Annes County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

View to east from house showing recent agricultural
outbuildings

7 of 8

0149 —■■■■■ 10> 11 260< 2



QA-574

Mount Hope

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

October 2005

MD SHPO

Gate at entrance to Mount Hope Farm Lane,
View to east.

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0119 — NORTH 50+ 11 SEE >